

SENSITIVE

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SITUATION: HAKUN
SUBJECT CATAGORY: TOHAK

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

IMMEDIATE
O 041244Z OCT 73
FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK 06

TO DICK CAMPBELL FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

UNCLAS WH32451

TOHAK 6
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT - EVENING REPORT
FOREIGN ECONMIC ASSISTANCE ACT

YESTERDAY BY A VOTE OF 54 TO 42 THE SENATE PASSED THE FOREIGN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1973. THE AGGREGATE LEVEL OF THE BILL IS \$1.2 BILLION (COMPARED TO THE HOUSE AUTHORIZATION OF \$1.6 BILLION). IN ADDITION TO THE CUTS IN ADMINISTRATION REQUESTED LEVELS, THE SENATE ADOPTED A CHURCH AMENDMENT TERMINATING THE PRACTICE OF USING FUNDS GENERATED FROM THE REPAYMENT OF PREVIOUS LOANS (AVERAGING ABOUT \$250 MILLION PER YEAR) FOR CURRENT PROGRAMS.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1966 THE SENATE ACTED ON THE FOREIGN AID BILL IN ATMOSPHERE FREE OF THE INFLUENCE OF THE INDOCHINA WAR AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS, THE FLOOR MANAGER OF THE BILL WAS A SENATE LEADER (HUMPHREY) CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH FOREIGN ASSISTANCE SINCE ITS INCEPTION, THE RESULT WAS THE RE-EMERGENCE OF TRADITIONAL LINES OF SUPPORT IN THE SENATE FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. THE FACT THAT THE SENATE WAS ONLY ADDRESSING ITSELF TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, AND NOT SECURITY ASSISTANCE, ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS CHANGE OF ATMOSPHERE. HOWEVER, DESPITE THESE HELPFUL DEVELOPMENTS IT IS CLEAR THAT THE EROSION IN SUPPORT FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE CONTINUES; THE MARGIN OF SUPPORT (54 TO 42 WAS AUGMENTED SIGNIFICANTLY BY REPUBLICAN BOTES FROM MEMBERS WHO NORMALLY DO NOT SUPPORT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.

AMONG THE 23 AMENDMENTS ADOPTED BY THE SENATE YESTERDAY THOSE WITH PARTICULAR POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE INCLUDED:

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--A MODIFIED TUNNEY AMENDMENT, DECLARING IT CONGRESSIONAL POLICY TO BAR USE OF FUNDS FOR MILITARY OR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE AFRICAN TERRITORIES OF PORTUGAL;

--A HARRY F. BYRD, JR. AMENDMENT TO REQUIRE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF ANY SETTLEMENT AT LESS THAN 100 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR OF THE \$3 BILLION PL 480 DEBT OWED BY INDIA TO THE UNITED STATES (THE TEXT IS IDENTICAL TO THE BYRD AMENDMENT ADOPTED IN THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL);

--A MODIFIED EAGLETON AMENDMENT, AUTHORIZING \$23.5 MILLION FOR DISASTER RELIEF CONTINGENCY FUNDS FOR EACH OF THE FISCAL YEARS 1974 AND 1975;

-- A HARTKE AMENDMENT REQUIRING THE PRESIDENT TO MAKE AN AFFIRMATIVE FINDING THAT A COUNTRY IS TAKING ADEQUATE STEPS TO CONTROL THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTICS BEFORE PROVIDING AID;

-- A KENNEDY AMENDMENT STATING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DENY CHILE ASSISTANCE UNTIL HE FINDS THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHT OS ALL INDIVIDUALS;

A KENNEDY AMENDMENT, STATING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD ESTABLISH WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE A BUREAU OF HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES; AND

--A MODIFIED ROTH AMENDMENT, MAKING THE SECTION DEALING WITH "ACCESS TO INFORMATION" APPLICABLE ONLY TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AGENCIES.

KENENTH RUSH
ACTING SECRETARY

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